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## SONG OF THE CALICO DRESS.

BY MRS. A. E. STANLEY.

(Air, "M. A. S.")

Now ladies, we have let us restrain  
Why is it we wear such extravagant dress?  
We carry about us, indeed, 'tis no joking—  
About as much freight as a Boston express.Indeed 'tis quite shocking, from hat down to  
nothing.Our dresses are made in a pocket and muslin,  
To carry such burdens, O ladies, 'tis provoking!

I'd sell the whole thing for a calico dress.

CHORUS.

Now ladies, go they it now ladies, we'll try it  
I think we can do with much less;  
So let every lady be doing her duty,  
And be 'queens of beauty' in a calico dress.Just look, if you will, at our trimmings and trappings,  
We're covered with flowers, and pokers, and  
parlors.I really believe we are losing our wit,  
We have such a passion, to be in the fashion,  
To look gay and stylish, and handsome, I guess.No preaching will stop this extravagant folly,  
Unless it is done in a calico dress.We've covered with flowers, and pokers, and  
parlors.And then, to think of a tremendous long trail,  
Who wears such a dress, and a dress we're wearing,  
Just like a mail ship with a dead load on deck.Eternally stitching, it must be something!  
We're no time for thinking, and reading much less.A woman is never more charming and pretty  
Than when she has on a neat calico dress.Just think of our grandmothers—bless their old  
pieces!It took only as much as a lady's dress;  
They looked just as smart as a lot of June roses,  
And 'twas just as they did, they just came from the  
press.There was no need of hurry, and no need of worry,  
Their dresses were few, and their fashions were  
less.And when Sunday came they were ready for  
worship.

To worship and praise in a calico dress.

I bless the old age, in his wisdom and knowl-  
edge.Who invented a thing of such beauty and ease,  
For our country, O, who cannot afford it!A nice fitting garment that cannot be please,  
And then 'tis a pleasure, to have such a treasure—  
Indeed 'tis quite useless the truth to im-  
press.And if ever I marry again—I'm not joking—  
I tell you 'twill be in a calico dress!

THE DOUBLE ESCAPE.

In the fall of the year 1812, some  
three or four months after the declaration  
of war, a fleet of eight or ten small craft  
was fitted out at Salem, by William Paul  
and others, intended for the Philadelphia  
flour trade. Among them was the  
schooner Fox, a small fore-and-aft vessel  
of about fifty tons. Samuel Hodgdon, mas-  
ter—George Hensler, mate—an old and  
experienced pilot, by the name of Eld-  
redge, and the boy Bill, from whom, by  
the way, we derive these particulars, re-  
turned from their trip, laden with flour, and  
armed for the purpose of self defence. Our  
little Fox was in ballast—saw in her  
hold snugly stowed against the bulkhead,  
for these were not strictly temperance  
times, was a barrel of American gin.  
Thus appointed the Fox topped her broom  
and was off, with a fair wind and a good  
promise of success, for a late arrival stated  
that no cruizers were to be seen in the  
bay.On the fourth morning they found  
themselves off Great Egg Harbor, and  
much to their chagrin, in the close neigh-  
borhood of a strange sloop-of-war. Run-  
ning away was out of the question—and  
in answer to one or two rather pressing  
invitations, by a messenger not over par-  
ticular in regard to forms and ceremonies  
the Fox hauled her wind and stood for  
her unwelcome neighbor."Nabbed by a spyer," said the old  
pilot, squinting a small catraet at tobacco  
juice to leeward, as he saw a boat pull  
out from the sloop-of-war filled with men.In a few moments Capt. Hodgdon had  
the pleasure of being told that he was  
a prize to his Britannic Majesty's sloop-of-  
war Prometheus, of seventeen guns, and  
that the company of himself and mate was  
particularly requested on board. With  
as good a grace as could be mustered, the  
request was complied with, and the  
captain and mate repaired on board.With the consent of the commander  
the captain and mate were permitted to  
go on board their own vessel for the night  
which was in charge of a middy and nine  
men. During the night the two vessels  
were lay off and on in the harbor close  
in company, although with such a force  
on board the schooner of course not the  
least suspicion was entertained of an at-  
tempt to recapture. Not relishing, how-  
ever, the idea of making so unpredicable a  
voyage nor seeing their little craft bur-  
nured and themselves prisoners if it  
were not, Hensler, the mate, and the  
boy Bill laid their heads together to re-  
take the schooner. Rather a formidable  
undertaking, it must be confessed, with  
ten armed men on board and the guns of  
the sloop-of-war, like sleeping thunder,  
frowning upon them. Undeterred by the  
almost hopelessness of their task, Hen-  
sler and the boy arranged the plot giving  
the captain and the pilot a hint of their  
intentions, which they readily acquiesced in.The night set in and our determined  
foes about the accomplishment of  
their work. At this time the two vessels  
having made considerable sailing, were ly-  
ing to the sloop-of-war under reefed  
topsails, and the schooner immediately  
under her guns, with her helm lashed a-  
lee, her fore and mainmast trimmed close  
ast, and her jib hauled to windward.  
About 8 o'clock Hensler and the pilot  
sat chatting together in the cabin over a  
dim light—the boy Bill in the meantime  
being on deck with the sloop-of-war's  
men, who were lounging around the win-  
dlass, cracking jokes, telling long yarns,  
listening apparently with the greatest in-  
terest to the stories of old salts."I say," said one of them, as he wound  
up his yarn, "you have been sitting there  
chuckling this half hour—had manners to  
you—can you do something toward  
helping out the evening's entertainment?""What can I do?" was Bill's laughing  
reply."Have you a plug of tobacco about you,  
youngster? I have been on short allow-  
ance of tarred rope for two months.""I have no tobacco," said Bill; "if I  
could get at the skipper's chest, I might  
smuggle a bit for you. But tell me  
what," he added, lowering his voice,  
"is a barrel of gin on board, and if  
you'd like to whet your whistles, I guess  
I can hook a drop. The old man won't  
mind it, seeing he is going to get clear to-  
morrow. Will that do?"Of course this proposition received the  
eager assent of all hands. A bucket  
and dipper were soon found, the hatches  
silently removed, and Bill crept slyly  
down the hold after the coveted liquor.the men in the meantime raising their  
voices in conversation in order to draw  
any noise that Bill might make in secur-  
ing the prize. After a while he appeared  
with the bucket full of gin, and a hearty  
swig was taken all around. It may be  
supposed that such a good opportunity  
was not permitted to pass unimproved, and  
the "main brace" was "spliced" pretty ef-  
fectively.After a while the bucket being dry,  
more than one hint was given that a fresh  
nip would not be disagreeable. Bill de-  
murred at first; but by repeated urging  
at last reluctantly consented to bring up  
another bucket. It was brought, emptied  
and replenished again. In fact Bill  
plied them so briskly with liquor that  
though not over strong, before long they  
were all in a comfortable state of somno-  
lence.Having assured himself that there was  
no danger to be apprehended from his late  
boon companions, Bill crept aft and giv-  
ing a preconcerted signal, Hensler left  
his berth and sauntered on deck, with  
only a part of his dress on for fear of ex-  
citing the suspicion of the middy, who sat  
half dozing over some newspapers which  
the captain had lent him. The first ob-  
ject of the mate and the young engineer  
was to secure the arms of the sleepers,  
by which time the pilot also came on  
deck.With his assistance the men were  
bound and bundled down the fore peak.  
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